

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

A P P E A R A N C E S:

Los Gatos Arts and Culture	Brian Bernasconi, Chair
Commissioners:	Cheryl Hare
	George Havelka
	Dawn Rose
	Tom Spilsbury
	David Stonesifer
	Colleen Wilcox
 Town Manager:	 Greg Larson
 Assistant to Town Manager:	 Christina Gilmore
 Transcribed by:	 Vicki L. Blandin
	(510) 337-1558

P R O C E E D I N G S:

LOS GATOS ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION 11/20/2014
Public Art Subcommittee – Veterans Memorial

1
2 CHAIR BERNASCONI: I'd like to welcome everybody
3 and call the meeting to order. In doing so, I would like to
4 just set the tone for this evening, and then we'll move
5 onto Verbal Communications.

6 First of all, my name is Brian Bernasconi. I'm on
7 the Arts and Culture Commission; just started this year.
8 Resident of Los Gatos, of course. Not that you're looking
9 for a personal introduction, but I was sort of chosen to
10 chair this. This is the Arts and Culture Commission. I've
11 lived here in Los Gatos a good part of my whole life. I
12 grew up here and my kids go to school here and so forth.

13 I don't love the idea that's we're up there and
14 there's this separation. Generally the Arts and Culture
15 Commission is around the table and we talk about things in
16 a more circular kind of fashion, and the one thing I
17 really, really wanted to avoid today is an "us and them"
18 type of feeling in this room. I really do believe that
19 there is a "we" feeling amongst the Arts and Culture
20 Commission and regarding this project I feel as though
21 everybody up here supports the project. I don't want to
22 speak on behalf of everybody, but I don't believe there's
23 anybody that opposes the memorial. It's really just a
24
25

1 question of how we're going to get that done, the whats and
2 the logistics of how that's going to get done.

3 If everybody can take a minutes and check their
4 phones—that includes us—to make sure that they're on
5 silent, that would be great. We'd love to have this meeting
6 go as interruption free was possible.

7 There are comment cards available, so Christina
8 has those if anybody wants to fill out a comment card.
9 We're going to take comments at the beginning here, Verbal
10 Communications. We're going to have an opportunity to make
11 comments after each agenda item, so it's not your only
12 opportunity at the beginning. If you have something that
13 strikes you, you will have the opportunity to comment, but
14 as I understand procedure, everybody in here has the
15 opportunity to comment just once. You can't keep coming
16 back up over and over again. We're going to allow three
17 minutes per speaker. There are not many of us here, so I
18 think the sentiment is if somebody really does need longer
19 than three minutes, then there may be an allowance for
20 that. What we're really trying to do is facilitate dialogue
21 here, and so I'm not so stringent on rules that you just
22 get cut off no matter what. I'd rather see this be
23 productive and everybody get an opportunity.
24
25

1 I think that is everything that I wanted to say,
2 so I will just start it off with Communications, the item
3 on the agenda, if anybody would like to share. Christina,
4 you're looking at me?

5 CHRISTINA GILMORE: There are currently no verbal
6 communications or written communications submitted at this
7 time.

8 CHAIR BERNASCONI: Great. Perfect. Any written
9 communications at this point that we need to share?

10 CHRISTINA GILMORE: No, there is not.

11 CHAIR BERNASCONI: Oh, none written, too. Okay,
12 let's get going then. The next agenda item is number three,
13 Background Information on Veterans Memorial Proposal. Staff
14 presentation, and thank you, Christina.

15 CHRISTINA GILMORE: Good afternoon, Commissioners.
16 My name is Christina Gilmore, Assistant to the Town
17 Manager. We are here today as a Public Arts Subcommittee as
18 part of the Arts Commission to discuss the Veterans
19 Memorial proposal.

20 Before I get started with my presentation I just
21 want to review all the materials that you have in front of
22 you just so that everyone knows what they have, and also
23 members of the public. You should have an agenda for
24 today's session, and following the agenda is Attachment 1;

25 LOS GATOS ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION 11/20/2014
Public Art Subcommittee – Veterans Memorial

1 there's a memorandum from Greg Larson, the Town Manager.
2 Attachment 2 is a set of documents that have been submitted
3 by the Veterans Foundation; they'll be part of their
4 presentation under Agenda Item 4. Attachment 3 is the
5 proposed Veterans Memorial work plan for this subcommittee,
6 which we'll be talking about a little bit later in my
7 presentation. Attachment 4 is some public communication
8 that was received and distributed to the Committee and
9 posted on the website from a member of the Museums of Los
10 Gatos. Four should be your very last item in your packet,
11 and on the bottom it should say, "Attachment 4."

12
13 COMMISSIONER HARE: I don't have the agenda or
14 the attachments.

15 CHRISTINA GILMORE: Okay, Jackie will come around
16 and distribute those to you. It should have been in the
17 packet at your chair.

18 GREG LARSON: Mr. Chair and Christina, if you're
19 looking for it, it doesn't say "Attachment 4" till you look
20 at page two, because that's where the attachment starts, so
21 it's under the cover memo. Correct, Cheryl.

22 CHRISTINA GILMORE: Thank you for that
23 clarification. Is that enough paper for you? Okay.

24 GREG LARSON: And did somebody need an agenda? I
25 can give you mine.

LOS GATOS ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION 11/20/2014
Public Art Subcommittee – Veterans Memorial

1 CHRISTINA GILMORE: Jackie's going to distribute
2 any additional paperwork. You also have a copy at your
3 chair of the presentation I am going to go forward. It's
4 the yellow pieces of paper. Okay, is everyone sorted for
5 the time being? You have two hours. We have plenty of time
6 to get everybody caught up with paper.

7 All right, so we'll go ahead and get started.
8 Again, my name is Christina Gilmore, Assistant to the Town
9 Manager. The purpose of this afternoon's meeting is to
10 review the proposal submitted by the Veterans Memorial
11 Foundation of Los Gatos for a Veterans Memorial to be
12 located at the Los Gatos Civic Center.

14 Just to give you a little bit of background on
15 this proposal and how it came to fruition, in November of
16 2012 the Veterans Memorial & Support Foundation approached
17 the Town Council with the request to build a Veterans
18 Memorial in the Civic Center, and the Council at that time
19 approved their request as well as approved some funding in
20 order for the Veterans Foundation to move forward with that
21 proposal. The direction from the Council at that time was
22 for the Foundation to submit two different proposals for
23 further Council review and action.

24 In March of 2013 a stakeholder meeting was
25 convened and the stakeholders that were a part of that

LOS GATOS ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION 11/20/2014
Public Art Subcommittee – Veterans Memorial

1 meeting were the Veterans Foundation, members of the Arts
2 Commission, the Los Gatos Museums, Music in the Park,
3 Friends of the Library, the Police Foundation and Fiesta de
4 Artes. The purpose of the meeting was to brainstorm with
5 all the current and anticipated users of the Civic Center
6 for ways that the upper deck in Civic Center could be
7 better utilized.

8 In March of 14 the Council put together their
9 annual Strategic Goals. The strategic goals are the
10 Council's priorities for the next two to three years, and
11 two of the goals were identified as helping to support the
12 veterans and getting a Veterans Memorial built at the Civic
13 Center. In March of this year the Council did identify that
14 a Veterans Memorial was a high priority for the Town and
15 committed to partner with the Foundation to develop a
16 memorial
17

18 That brings us to the present day, November 4th at
19 the beginning of this month. The Veterans Foundation
20 brought forward two proposals, two designs, with varying
21 elements to the Council for proposal for a Veterans
22 Memorial. The two proposals that were brought forward were
23 primarily located on the upper deck of the Civic Center,
24 which is right above us. I know many of you have already
25 done a site visit and a walk-around, so that is the

1 proposal that is before you today and that we'll be
2 discussing throughout this process.

3 The Council at that time decided to refer the
4 Veterans Memorial proposal back to the Arts Commission to
5 utilize the public art policies and selection criteria to
6 review the proposal and to come back to the Council with
7 recommendations on how to move forward.

8 As part of the Council's direction they did
9 specify some specific locations within the Civic Center for
10 this body to consider. Those locations are the corner of
11 the upper deck overlooking the lawn and the rose garden;
12 the center of the upper deck, which is primarily a
13 fountain; the platform on the upper deck, which is between
14 the administration building and the police building; the
15 lower space between the police and the museum, so it's
16 going down the steps from the upper deck going towards the
17 parking lot here behind the police building; the Civic
18 Center lawn by Pageant Way and the parking; and then other
19 places within the Civic Center with the exception of
20 Pageant Grounds and Pageant Bridge; those two locations
21 have been ruled out by the Council for potential locations
22 for the memorial. As I mentioned earlier, the Council has
23 directed that this body come back to the Council with
24
25

1 recommendations for consideration at the Jan 20, 2015
2 meeting.

3 I'll just do a quick overview of public policy
4 procedure. This is part of the Public Art Policy that was
5 initially adopted in 1992 and modified in 2009. The policy
6 requires that the Arts and Culture Commission review
7 proposed public art installations or artwork loaned, gifted
8 or purchased by the Town for public display. As part of
9 this process a Public Art Subcommittee can be created and
10 review any recommendations or proposals for public art,
11 bring back their recommendations to the full Commission as
12 a body, and the Commission will provide their
13 recommendations for art to the Council for consideration.
14

15 The review process can involve other commissions,
16 for example, if a piece of public art is being proposed to
17 be placed in one of the parks within the Town, then it
18 would be appropriate for the Parks Commission to be
19 involved in that process. Also, any opportunity for
20 community and stakeholder input is encouraged.

21 Within the policy there's clear criteria and
22 conditions for how to evaluate public art, so as part of
23 this work plan for this body we will be going through that
24 criteria, and I believe you have received detailed
25

1 information in a previous packet from the November 12th
2 meeting.

3 Two last final things. Any action on public art
4 falls under the Town Council, so any final action for
5 approval to proceed with a public art project, or not to
6 proceed, would be within the purview of the Town Council to
7 make that decision, so all recommendations from this body
8 are purely recommendations and the Town Council will have
9 the final decision making.
10

11 Then the last item within the policy is that if
12 the Council directs, a separate process can be established
13 for evaluating public art for a new Town facility or for
14 any other Town construction. An example of that was the new
15 public library; that was an exception to the current
16 policy. The public art that was included in that building
17 was evaluated under a separate body.

18 Your proposed work plan was proposed to this
19 Commission on November 12th and the Commission voted to
20 approve meeting as a committee of the whole as opposed to
21 having a three-person public art subcommittee. The thought
22 process behind that, and this Commission agreed to that,
23 was that having a meeting of the committee as a whole would
24 speed along the process, because there is such a very short
25

1 timeline for review and recommendations back to the
2 Council.

3 As part of our meeting on November 12th Staff
4 proposed a timeline for meetings. We have proposed that we
5 have a series of six meetings to evaluate this project. The
6 first meeting was held on November 12th and that involved
7 process overview and a site visit. Today's meeting will
8 include background information, which I'm presenting to you
9 now, in addition to a formal proposal from the Veterans
10 Foundation on their project. The December 4th meeting will
11 be an evaluation of the proposed material. December 11th
12 will focus purely on location. December 18th will review
13 aesthetics and design, and then the January 8th meeting will
14 be for this body to come back and finalize their
15 recommendations to present to the Council on January 20th.

17 In addition to what is on your agenda today,
18 Staff is recommending a couple of proposed actions that we
19 would like this body to consider and vote upon.

20 The first thing is formally adopting the work
21 plan as has been outlined to you. I know that we talked
22 about it last week. I just reviewed the dates and the
23 objectives for each of those dates, so I think formal
24 adoption of the work plan would be in order.
25

1 The second item would be to provide Staff with
2 direction on public noticing. Some options that the Staff
3 is bringing forward to this Committee on public noticing
4 would be potentially a postcard noticing to surrounding
5 properties who might possibly be affected by this proposal;
6 posting information about this body and the task before it
7 on the Town's website under What's New; email distribution
8 and also next-door email distribution; then the third item
9 would be potentially placing paid ads in the Los Gatos
10 Weekly.
11

12 The last item is story poles. The proposal that
13 you have before you is quite big in scale, and even though
14 we have provided very details drawings and renderings from
15 the Foundation and the artist that they have chosen, it
16 would probably be a good idea for this Committee to
17 consider directing Staff to erect story poles on the upper
18 deck with the proposed area so that everyone involved and
19 any interested Committee members can get an idea of the
20 size and the scale and the placement of the proposed
21 memorial.
22

23 With that, those are the three proposed actions
24 that we're asking this Committee to consider today in
25 addition to hearing the presentation from the Veterans

1 Foundation. That concludes my presentation. If you have any
2 questions, I am available to answer them.

3 COMMISSIONER HAVELKA: Do you think the Council
4 was considering all these locations in discreet terms or as
5 a whole? There's a whole list of locations here, and
6 they're all over the Civic Center, and what we are given
7 from Veterans seems to encompass pretty much all of them.

8 CHRISTINA GILMORE: That's correct. The Veterans'
9 proposal does include a majority of the locations that the
10 Council did approve, so I think the task that the Council
11 is asking this Committee to consider is is the proposal
12 that's before you appropriate for the location and all the
13 elements that are proposed? If it's determined that there
14 might be other locations within the Civic Center, those are
15 locations that they would prefer to see a Veterans
16 Memorial. So you have the whole proposal as proposed, and
17 then you have these other discreet locations that the
18 Council has voted that a memorial could be placed.

19 COMMISSIONER STONESIFER: Christina, the proposal
20 that we've already all been brought aware of, I would like
21 to make sure that we have enough time so that we
22 Commissioners can talk amongst ourselves on where we think
23 it's going as it stands rather than to have more
24 information fed to us. How does that start?

25
LOS GATOS ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION 11/20/2014
Public Art Subcommittee – Veterans Memorial

1 CHRISTINA GILMORE: After we conclude this part of
2 the presentation, the Veterans Foundation will be
3 presenting to you their proposal.

4 COMMISSIONER STONESIFER: Which is different from
5 what we already know?

6 CHRISTINA GILMORE: I believe their intention is
7 to go into more detail about the elements of the proposal
8 and to provide more background information on how they came
9 to the decision, and then also to be available to answer
10 any questions that the Committee members have. So that
11 would be the appropriate time to ask the Foundation or
12 members of Staff as appropriate any additional questions to
13 help you with your deliberation.

15 COMMISSIONER STONESIFER: Okay, thank you.

16 COMMISSIONER WILCOX: I was wondering if there
17 could be prior to voting on the work plan, if I look at
18 December 4th, 11th and 18th and what's planned, there might
19 be some need to move within and through those three topics,
20 and I wouldn't want to limit ourselves to that. It would be
21 hard to evaluate the proposal, and then if the location
22 were changed that... I mean so I would want to vote on this
23 work plan with the knowledge or understanding that at least
24 those three dates could have some flexibility for the
25 purposes of discussion.

1 COMMISSIONER HAVELKA: I just want to say that
2 that's an excellent idea, yeah.

3 CHAIR BERNASCONI: Christine, maybe you can tell
4 us, it seems to make sense that we will be able to get that
5 first agenda item, or the adoption of the proposed work
6 plan approved today. I don't think that's an issue; we all
7 agreed to that actually last week. But the latter two don't
8 seem like they're realistic for approval for tonight.

9
10 CHRISTINA GILMORE: Sure, absolutely. This is a
11 proposal from the Staff. We were trying to figure out the
12 best way to kind of break this up into pieces, because it
13 is a large project and there are some many elements within
14 our policy for consideration. We were just trying to come
15 up with an easy way to group them, and of course if this
16 Committee would like to rearrange the objectives for each
17 date or combine them, we are more than happy to accommodate
18 the Committee. We would just need some direction on what
19 you would like to see the objectives for those dates for
20 this Committee to get through.

21 CHAIR BERNASCONI: Okay.

22
23 GREG LARSON: Mr. Chair, if I might add. Greg
24 Larson, Town Manager. Kind of drawing on the comments three
25 different Commissioners have made, because I think they all
do link.

LOS GATOS ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION 11/20/2014
Public Art Subcommittee – Veterans Memorial

1 First, in terms of the discussion that
2 Commissioner Stonesifer asked about, we really saw tonight
3 to be learning the background of the Council's action and
4 then learning the background from the Veterans Foundation
5 that has brought the proposal forward, because not every
6 Commissioner attended the Council meeting where it was
7 presented to the Council. I know Commissioner Stonesifer
8 did, but other Commissioners we thought should hear from
9 the Veterans Foundation on the why for their proposal and
10 how they came to it.
11

12 We then saw the discussion that Commissioner
13 Stonesifer mentioned really happening on December 4th, and
14 that's where after hearing the background from Council that
15 Christina just gave and the background from the Veterans
16 Foundation, then the meeting on the 4th would be pretty much
17 solely dedicated to the Commission talking through what the
18 Council directed in terms of evaluating the proposal and
19 what your policy says for evaluating, so we really saw that
20 as what works and doesn't work from the Commission's point
21 of view from the proposal. That could then lead up to
22 location and a study in design recommendations.
23

24 I think Commissioner Wilcox is absolutely
25 correct; there is interplay between those. Staff was just
laying out last week and again tonight that probably

1 location has to be at the top end of that, because that
2 drives design, but there will be an interplay and I think
3 to deal with what several Commissioners said they would
4 like. It may be appropriate on December 4th, 11th and 18th
5 for the Commission to simply amend the work plan, adding an
6 asterisk that the discussion can—the word that comes to
7 mind is “morphed,” but that doesn’t seem very
8 governmentese—but as the Commission chooses, because there
9 is an interplay between the issues, as you’ll hear from the
10 Veterans Foundation tonight, for why they chose the
11 location and the design they did. So maybe asterisk to the
12 4th, 11th and 18th, and leaving flexibility for Commission
13 discretion to adjust those topics as needed might be the
14 appropriate step.
15

16 CHAIR BERNASCONI: Yes, Tom.

17 COMMISSIONER SPILSBURY: Tom Spilsbury. I had a
18 question of process of what the Town Council actually is
19 asking us to do, and I think other Commissioners, I’ve
20 heard it in their questions and their voices. Does the
21 Council want us to take this proposal, adjust, modify, move
22 it around, or simply scrap it completely, start over? I’m
23 not sure what the Council is asking us to do. It’s so broad
24 and so general with so many different locations; every
25 location could be a different. The fountain structure may

1 not fit in other places, so then we're starting all over
2 with what they've spent weeks and months and years on to
3 develop, and we're trashing it? What is our goal from the
4 Council to do? Are we to adjust and modify or start over,
5 or what does the Council want us to do?

6 CHAIR BERNASCONI: Tom, can I jump in? First of
7 all, I totally agree that that's a valid question and that
8 we need to answer that, but again, I think maybe we should
9 back up, because you maybe know more about this than
10 everybody who is sitting here knows about it. I'm just not
11 sure how much homework has been done here on behalf of the
12 Commission, so maybe we would allow for the presentation
13 first and then dig into these kinds of questions?

15 COMMISSIONER SPILSBURY: That's fine with me, but
16 it's a question that I need to... I need to know how we're
17 being directed.

18 CHRISTINA GILMORE: Sure, and I can try to give
19 you as succinct an answer as I possibly can, with Town
20 Manager Larson chiming in if appropriate.

21 You're correct; the direction given from the
22 Council is broad. They would like you to utilize the Public
23 Art Policy and the criteria within that policy for how any
24 types of public art are evaluated and to provide them with
25 a series of recommendations. You have a fully formed

1 proposal before you, so my understanding of it is that the
2 Council would like you to evaluate the proposal. The
3 proposal has been specified for a specific location. The
4 Council has given you alternate locations that could also
5 be part of the discussion and the consideration.

6 At the end of this process this body will need to
7 draft a series of recommendations to the Council so that
8 they consider how they might want to proceed with this
9 project. The recommendations could be all encompassing for
10 the project. It could be anything that this body decides,
11 so that's part of the six meetings for you to kind of
12 figure out, to really look at the policy and see if the
13 components within the policy, the criteria, apply to this
14 project as a whole and if what you have before you is
15 something that the Council should be considering for
16 approval. I hope that's not too roundabout and answers your
17 question.
18

19 COMMISSIONER SPILSBURY: There's some clarity
20 with that.

21 COMMISSIONER HARE: It is a bit general. I guess
22 what I would like to see, it looks like this particular
23 area is the focus at this point, and if there are other
24 areas being considered I think as much attention needs to
25 be put to those so we could visualize what would be put in

1 those areas also, because it's hard to compare the
2 different areas if you're only shown on thing.

3 CHRISTINA GILMORE: Sure. That will be a
4 conversation between this body and the Veterans Foundation.
5 The proposal that they have encompasses the whole upper
6 deck as of now, so they would be the ones to have that
7 discussion for you for these other location sites that the
8 Council has deemed appropriate.

9
10 COMMISSIONER ROSE: What I wanted to clarify is
11 that we may give several recommendations. We could give
12 three recommendations.

13 CHRISTINA GILMORE: Correct.

14 COMMISSIONER ROSE: There are many locations and
15 those locations would drive different designs, so we could
16 do that, we could consider several recommendations?

17 CHRISTINA GILMORE: Absolutely. That's correct,
18 and if the Committee at some point feels it's easier to go
19 location-by-location and give recommendations for each
20 location, that is an opportunity that's available to you. I
21 think there are a variety of different ways. It will be a
22 little challenging to kind of come together and figure out
23 how you want to package your recommendations, but yes, you
24 can have multiple recommendations and that does not limit
25 you at all.

1 COMMISSIONER STONESIFER: Do you think it would
2 be practical, since we're only allowed to speak amongst
3 ourselves in a public meeting as this is, I think every
4 single one of us is very anxious to know what the others
5 are thinking. We have this in front of us and it seems like
6 it might be a big waste of time to keep piling more ideas
7 on until the community and the Applicants know maybe
8 generally where we're coming from. Now, not everybody is
9 going to be in agreement, but we don't really know who
10 agrees with what.
11

12 CHRISTINA GILMORE: Sure. Just to go over a little
13 bit of process. I know this is a very different process
14 from what this Commission is used to. It was very formal
15 and we're trying to do a hybrid between a Council meeting
16 and Planning Commission meeting.

17 As Mr. Larson had mentioned before, the December
18 4th meeting, we've identified that as a meeting for you to
19 talk about the proposal as presented to you as a whole, so
20 that would be your opportunity as a Commission to share
21 your thoughts, ask questions of Staff, ask questions of
22 Foundation representatives, and really kind of put out your
23 thoughts and your feelings about the proposal that's before
24 you, and then of course that will inform the rest of the
25 meetings and the conversations that you have.

LOS GATOS ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION 11/20/2014
Public Art Subcommittee – Veterans Memorial

1 Today's meeting really is to provide you with
2 some high-level background, and also members of the public
3 who may not have been involved or attended previous
4 meetings, and to allow the Foundation to come before you
5 and present more details on the proposal. We do anticipate
6 that this should be a two-way communication between this
7 Committee, the Foundation, any other stakeholders and
8 members of the public that attend. We just have to do it
9 within the confines of the Brown Act and ensure that we're
10 meeting those requirements.
11

12 GREG LARSON: I just want to follow along and
13 fully support what Christina said with a slight additional
14 nuance, which the public process of the Town I believe
15 requires that you give the Veterans Foundation every
16 opportunity to present their proposal, because there is
17 varying degrees of familiarity with the proposal amongst
18 the Commission, and to disclose an initial preference or
19 direction by any individual Commissioner, until you've had
20 that full discussion with the Veterans Memorial, I think
21 undermines the public process a little bit. I think it is
22 more structured than some of you are expecting, but we
23 believe it's critically important to give the Veterans
24 Foundation every opportunity to present their proposal for
25 you to understand it and for you to ask questions before

1 you start making evaluative comments about it. So that's
2 why we've structured it this way and I hope that's
3 acceptable to the Commission.

4 CHAIR BERNASCONI: Before you go on, I actually
5 agree, Greg, and I'm actually feeling a little bit of like
6 an anxious feeling to hear the Veterans proposal. I know
7 there are a lot of questions about procedure and how is
8 this going to work. I mean we're kind of entering off into
9 uncharted territory here, and yet I'm feeling as though
10 we're doing all the talking and we haven't heard from the
11 Veterans yet, so I'd like to suggest that maybe we put the
12 questions on hold for now. I'd like to hear what the
13 proposal is. I'd like to hear the other side have their
14 moment to share with us what's going on. I mean we've seen
15 a lot of paper and we've heard a lot of things, but I'd
16 like to hear that as well. Dawn, go ahead.

18 COMMISSIONER ROSE: I was going to say let's let
19 the process begin. Let's get started.

20 CHRISTINA GILMORE: We're going to get the
21 Veterans set up and while we're doing that we do have three
22 actions before you that the Staff is recommending. We took
23 it down from the overhead screen, but it's on your slide.

24 GREG LARSON: And I do need to clarify one. The
25 work plan you tentatively approved, so we're presenting it.

1 Staff will modify that to include the asterisk if there's
2 consensus from the Commission.

3 COMMISSIONER WILCOX: I'd be willing to move that
4 that be adopted with those modifications.

5 CHAIR BERNASCONI: Just to clarify, the motion is
6 to adopt the proposed work plan as it stands and to leave
7 the second two items, the public notice and the sub-items
8 underneath that, and the story poles, as items that will be
9 decided later in the process on subsequent dates.

10 COMMISSIONER WILCOX: No, sorry.

11 CHAIR BERNASCONI: Okay, great.

12 COMMISSIONER WILCOX: I was chunking it in more
13 discrete entities whereby the work plan, simply the one
14 with the dates, that we would vote on that first, would be
15 approved with the modifications outlined by Greg, which
16 would mean December 4th, 11th and 18th, would allow
17 flexibility of discussion within those three topics, so not
18 to violate the Brown Act.

19 CHAIR BERNASCONI: Did that make sense to you,
20 Mr. Larson?

21 GREG LARSON: Yes, plus we can go back and
22 capture it.

23 COMMISSIONER HAVELKA: Second.

24 CHAIR BERNASCONI: Yeah, great. Perfect.

25 LOS GATOS ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION 11/20/2014
Public Art Subcommittee – Veterans Memorial

1 GREG LARSON: And I think Staff would fully
2 support that.

3 CHAIR BERNASCONI: The motion stands. We have a
4 second. All in favor? Any opposed?

5 GREG LARSON: The other two items, Public
6 noticing, that's actually within Staff's jurisdiction, I
7 don't know, authority, to proceed on those issues.

8 But the issue of story poles came up at your
9 workshop last week, so that's why we raised it here,
10 largely because if you did want to have story poles help
11 inform your evaluation discussion on December 3rd, we'd have
12 to get started on it now, because we have the Thanksgiving
13 break and they wouldn't be up in time, so I think that's
14 really what we're trying to guide. With the Thanksgiving
15 break, if you want us to be aggressive on some of that
16 public noticing such as story poles prior to your
17 evaluation session on the 3rd, we're going to have to start
18 tomorrow, but if that's less important, we can wait till
19 your meeting on the 3rd to get direction then.
20

21 COMMISSIONER HARE: May I say something? I think
22 that's kind of putting the cart before the horse, the story
23 poles, until we really get a little bit more information.
24

25 CHAIR BERNASCONI: More story.

COMMISSIONER HARE: Yeah, more story.

LOS GATOS ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION 11/20/2014
Public Art Subcommittee – Veterans Memorial

1 COMMISSIONER WILCOX: Could I ask, are you
2 talking about five separate story poles? No.

3 CHAIR BERNASCONI: The story poles, as I
4 understand it from what I've seen so far, would be really
5 for the upper deck. I mean we're not going to put story
6 poles on the brick walls. It's to gauge height and the
7 breadth of the work proposed on the deck above us. So I
8 agree, I think we need more story before we start launching
9 into story poles.
10

11 GREG LARSON: Well, let's put it on our future
12 agenda for your consideration.

13 COMMISSIONER WILCOX: Yes, I think that would be
14 a good idea.

15 CHAIR BERNASCONI: We all set up, Christina?
16 Perfect.

17 COMMISSIONER WILCOX: Then I ask, Brian, are
18 there other actions that we need to take at this point?
19 That would be Item 2.

20 GREG LARSON: It was work plan, public noticing
21 and story poles, and I think you've acted on all of that.

22 CHAIR BERNASCONI: Great. So I would like to just
23 go ahead and invite whomever it is that's going to present
24 to come forward. Thanks.
25

1 MAJOR GENERAL HILLHOUSE: I'm Kent Hillhouse; I'm
2 the acting presenter tonight, one of the presenters for the
3 Veterans Memorial Foundation. Thank you, Commissioners, for
4 allowing us these 45 minutes to make the presentation.

5 Our goal at the conclusion of this plan that's in
6 effect here, the different meetings, is to be able to come
7 to a mutual understanding and agreement on what we want to
8 do with regard to the Foundation and the memorial.

9 Also, I'd like to say just for clarification's
10 sake, the presentation tonight is regarding the areas
11 involving one memorial, one project, which was designed for
12 the plaza; it wasn't designed for any other place, just the
13 plaza. So if there's a change then we'll have to go through
14 a redesign, just FYI.

15 Other than that we're going to start the 45
16 minutes with a nine-minute video on the screen. Is that
17 right? Change, okay. Then we'll move on to our first
18 presenter. Thank you.

19 ELLEN MANZO: Good evening, Commissioners. My
20 name is Ellen Manzo and I appreciate this opportunity.

21 Two years ago we filed for incorporation for our
22 foundation, which we think earmarks a special day, not only
23 for our veterans, our town, but also our foundation, of
24 course.

25 LOS GATOS ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION 11/20/2014
Public Art Subcommittee – Veterans Memorial

1 And two years ago we shared our plan with the
2 Arts and Culture Commission, we shared our plan with
3 organizations within the Town of Los Gatos, we shared it
4 with the Town Council and with the public. You heard our
5 story and at that time we told you that one of our goals
6 was to raise funds to erect and support the ongoing
7 maintenance of a Veterans Memorial that promotes a better
8 understanding of the contribution and sacrifices of our
9 military men and women who protect the freedom daily for
10 those of us in America. That freedom, I might add, includes
11 of course, as you're well aware, freedom of expression,
12 something clearly of importance to any artist.

14 You also heard that we intend to ensure that the
15 memorial is a resource for the historical understanding and
16 recognition of all veterans past, present, future, all of
17 arms of the military that have served, are serving, or will
18 serve for the United States, and a recognition of their
19 sacrifices and the sacrifices borne by their families. To
20 that end the Foundation chooses to maintain in perpetuity
21 the governance and authority of the memorial.

22 We established this Foundation for the reason
23 that we recognized that there was a need. Consider a couple
24 of important facts. For the last 3,400 years of recorded
25 history the world has been at peace 8% of the time. And

1 consider some staggering numbers. The war on terror alone
2 resulted in 6,600 or thereabouts killed in action. Two-and-
3 a-half million individuals served in Afghanistan and in
4 Iraq; over a third of that number has been deployed more
5 than once, over 400,000 service members have been deployed
6 more than three times. Already the wars in Afghanistan and
7 Iraq have produced more disability claims per veteran than
8 any other war in American history, including Vietnam, Korea
9 and World War Two.

10
11 You see, we're not just a foundation that's bent
12 on building a memorial, we're a foundation that has a long-
13 term goal, which we told you about two years ago as well,
14 and that long-term goal is to establish programs in support
15 of those who serve. Let's face it; if everything was
16 copasetic and beautiful in this world and we didn't need to
17 do that, maybe we wouldn't need this memorial.

18 But it's real simple. We want to support our
19 veterans over the long haul. That requires that we educate
20 the community. To educate the community we plan to gather
21 the Town for celebrations over the course of the year. That
22 requires a venue. We believe that one of the best ways to
23 achieve our goal is to demonstrate that Los Gatos is a town
24 that expresses gratitude, honor, respect and thanks for the
25 freedoms that we enjoy, and that calls for this town to

1 send a strong message, a tribute to freedom that
2 communicates that our community appreciates those who have
3 responded to the call of duty. That message requires a
4 tribute to freedom with exposure, a tribute to freedom
5 that, simply put, is front and center.

6 I'd like to now invite my colleague, Barbara
7 Naden.

8 BARBARA NADEN: Thank you, Ellen, and thank you
9 for the time, Commissioners; I really appreciate it. I'm
10 here to kind of set a context for our general approach. I'm
11 not here to talk about specifics of the design, but I
12 wanted to start with what is a memorial?

13 According to the dictionary, something,
14 especially a structure, established to keep a remembrance
15 alive. So what is the remembrance we're trying to establish
16 here? That is simply that freedom is not free. As citizens
17 of Los Gatos it is our responsibility to remember the
18 sacrifices made by our service men and women as well as our
19 first responders that preserve the long list of freedoms we
20 enjoy today. This memorial gives Los Gatos an opportunity
21 to properly express that gratitude. So how can we tell if
22 the memorial is actually expressing this level of
23 gratitude?
24
25

1 Well, one way of looking at it is its stature.
2 The size of the memorial indicates the importance of the
3 event or person. It needs to be proportionate to the
4 significance of what is being recognized.

5 Another way to evaluate it is with the location.
6 The location is also indicative of importance. We all know
7 the three most important things to look for in purchasing a
8 house: location, location, location. By choosing a
9 prominent location we are proving that Los Gatos considers
10 it important to show appreciation for the freedom we have
11 been given. Located in the center of the Civic Plaza, it
12 will be visible to all people who visit the library, City
13 offices, museums and various festivals.

15 Another way to look at it is through the cost.
16 Our proposal is to raise \$750,000 to over \$1 million in
17 private donations to erect this memorial. As an additional
18 benefit, it enhances our Civic Center Plaza to be a more
19 hospitable and inviting area, especially on hot days.

20 Finally, the last thing we looked at was
21 permanence, and our proposal is to erect a low maintenance,
22 permanent structure. To commemorate our priceless freedom
23 and the many sacrifices that have been made over the past
24 230 years we have proposed a memorial that represents the
25

1 enormity of this gift by its permanence, cost, stature and
2 location.

3 Next I would like to introduce Major General Kent
4 Hillhouse, and he will discuss some of the design criteria
5 that we looked at.

6 MAJOR GENERAL HILLHOUSE: Thank you, Barbara. So
7 we're going to go through quickly the criteria we used to
8 come up with our design selection.

9 First of all, the Town. What did we get from the
10 Town Council? One was the plaza needed fixing. It needs to
11 be inviting. It needs to be hospitable. Shade, coolness,
12 greenery, seating and these types of things were part of
13 our direction. Don't disrupt the trees. Don't take space on
14 the lawn, because that's used for festivals and other
15 gatherings. Access for all ages, abilities and
16 disabilities; that was a critical one. A celebration of the
17 Foundation that honors veterans at Civic Center, which now
18 lacks signage and identity. Walkers using the imaginary
19 pathway from the street to the stairs of the Town chambers
20 entrance resulted in having to reseed the lawn once a year
21 minimum. Maybe it's more than that, but one year for sure.
22 Appropriate lighting. Low maintenance. Support requirements
23 with regard to the Department of Health. Needs to be kid
24 safe and minimizes liabilities. Muffles the sound for the
25

1 mechanical room that is located just behind Civic Center.
2 Cannot be viewed as disruptive in light or sound by the
3 adjoining neighbors. Free improvement to infrastructure; no
4 cost to the Town. And then at some point it was mentioned
5 that there was a list, I don't know if it was Sunset
6 Magazine, but a list of the top ten towns all had similar
7 characteristics, one of which is a memorial, which we right
8 now do not have. So the Town gave that to us.

9
10 Second, what were the Foundation's needs? Number
11 one, a place or a venue to celebrate those who have
12 defended America, a place that allows people to gather and
13 congregate. Be able to educate the community, veterans and
14 first responders honored and remembered and thanked.
15 Exposure to the sacrifices made by veterans. Exposure to
16 the needs of our currently returning veterans. Drives
17 helping our veterans to readjust to civilian life.
18 Authority to govern the contents of what is included. A
19 design that will motivate donors. Emotional, weight
20 bearing, security. A place where one can pause and reflect.
21 Low maintenance. Minimizes ongoing cost. Green project
22 design is a plus. A place that can be visited by
23 individuals of all age groups, abilities and disabilities;
24 that was mentioned earlier too.
25

1 So the resultant requirements are as follows: A
2 design that was recognizable from a distance. High exposure
3 location that offers a large enough space for people to
4 congregate. No glorification of war. No heavy weaponry. No
5 warlike poses. No glorification of death or morbid designs.
6 And Commissioner Spilsbury, we are not going to bring that
7 World War Two tank up there. Structures that provide
8 seating, shade, space, security, coolness, appropriate
9 lighting.

10
11 Keep in mind that we've built in a lot of
12 flexibility. When I mentioned lighting I saw a document
13 come through that we didn't release, but we are willing to
14 go with whatever you all and the architects deem
15 appropriate.

16 The next one is an emotionally and moving
17 representation of freedom that will motivate donors to
18 contribute. We've talked to a lot of people in the
19 neighborhood here, citizens of Los Gatos, who have their
20 own ideas of what a memorial should look like, and if it
21 doesn't look like a memorial, and it's not in the right
22 place, they're not going to donate money, so that's
23 critical for us. Space to recognize individual
24 contributions. Ability for donors to customize a message.
25 Water feature is optional, but no pooling water for safety

1 reasons and also for health reasons. Low maintenance.
2 Construction of long lasting materials and energy efficient
3 ADA compliant. Muffling the sound of the mechanical room
4 located behind the Civic Center. Will not have features
5 that are dangerous to viewers, and particularly we have
6 ideas with regard to children and skateboarders and so
7 forth.

8 This concludes my portion of the presentation.
9 I'm going to turn it over to George Hall, who is a local
10 contractor here in Los Gatos. Thank you, George.

11 GEORGE HALL: Thank you, General. I'm George
12 Hall. I'm going to give you a quick overview of the nuts
13 and bolts of what we propose.

14 Our proposal is to build this on the Civic Center
15 here and we're going to utilize the existing fountain. You
16 can go ahead and start the first slide.

17 The fountain will be the perimeter for our
18 statue, and we're going to support the statue with a
19 structure that is going to be attached to the walls of the
20 fountain so we don't injure or perhaps do any damage to the
21 membrane that's going to keep this dry down here. The mound
22 that the statue stands on is, the rubble, is going to be a
23 molded fiberglass and the statue itself will be bronze, as
24 well as the eagle that stands on his shoulder. The spire
25

1 behind it with the eternal flame will be made out of a
2 reflective material, perhaps polished aluminum, and the
3 flame will be obviously a flickering electric light. We're
4 looking at the possibly of putting in a misting arrangement
5 that will go down around the bottom of the fountain and
6 will be lit up with low voltage lights that will give a
7 soft rendition at night of fog and mist, so it will be very
8 touching.

9
10 The trellises will be made out of composite
11 material; they're not going to be materials that are going
12 to rot. It could be epoxy or maybe concrete, but it will
13 have the appearance of wood and will have evergreen
14 shrubbery vines that will grow, hopefully flowering types,
15 low maintenance also. The brick areas, people will be able
16 to buy them and put remembrances of people that they have
17 shared their lives with that were perhaps veterans
18 themselves, and that will be one of the ways that we'll be
19 able to make money.

20 I think we can go to the second video there. What
21 we have here, as you'll see, are some of the measurements
22 of this. The fountain itself is 20" high, the rubble we
23 expect to be somewhere in the neighborhood of 18" above
24 that, and then we have the statue of the soldier saluting
25 is about 9'. The eagle that stands above him is another 3'

1 higher, and then the spire comes up to approximately 18'
2 high. The total width of this is somewhat less than 7', and
3 I think it's important that you keep in mind that in spite
4 of the fact that you may say wow, that's a huge, tall
5 figure, when you look at this area that we're looking at
6 here, this is about 10,000 square feet, almost 100' by
7 100'. It doesn't say that on here, but this is a much
8 smaller figure than what it looks like here; it appears to
9 be gargantuan. The trellises are 8' from the bottom and 10'
10 above, so you get an idea of how this is going to appear.
11

12 Why don't you try the next slide of me? Thank
13 you, Jackie. So you get a little better idea that the
14 structure itself in the middle of this is not as large as
15 it might appear to you in these pictures, and I think
16 that's important to note. What we have here is a pavilion
17 that people can utilize for all kinds of events. They can
18 have art shows here, you can have wine tastings, and the
19 museum can have all kinds of events out here. This is going
20 to be a focal point that we are going to provide that will
21 be an attraction, and the kids going to school will come
22 out here to study or talk. Kids will play and enjoy this
23 whole area. It will be shaded and it will be a welcoming
24 place for our community to congregate.
25

1 Let's try the next one. So there are some of the
2 dimensions. The 54' does not include the full width of the
3 distance; that's just the brick area itself, not including
4 the rest of the areas around it. What I'm saying is it's
5 about 100' across and 106' the other direction, so it's a
6 huge area. Of that huge area, we're talking about the area
7 of the fountain is approximately 30' in diameter, so it
8 takes up about a third of the space there and the statue in
9 the middle of that is about 7' across, including the spire
10 18-20' high.

12 Next one. This is a shot taken from the street,
13 so you get an idea of what this would look like. I truly
14 think that it's a welcoming sight. Somebody walking by,
15 they're going to want to go see what that's all about.

16 Next, please. This is a night shot where we have
17 included two sidewalks going up on either side, and a sign.
18 These are just ideas that we'd like you to consider. The
19 lighting will be very subdued. We don't want anything
20 garish. We want this to be inviting, warm and reverent.

21 Next. Your Attachment 4, I believe, was by our
22 friend, Barney Davidge with the museum, and he took some
23 liberties here, or at least it wasn't very clear on his
24 dimensions. They're very much out of scope, as you can see,
25 where he had it about half as high as the mountain behind

1 it. It's much more subdued. It's about as high, or not as
2 high, as the building next to it. So I suggest that when
3 you look at Attachment 4, keep that in mind. Those are not
4 in scale whatsoever, and truly I think should be discarded,
5 in my opinion.

6 Barney mentioned during the session that we had
7 when we presented it that he thought that a memorial would
8 be fine, but he didn't want it in his neighborhood, not
9 here. I think he's dead wrong. Has anybody here seen the
10 memorial in Savannah, Georgia at all? Have you seen it?
11 It's outstanding. It's a huge earth, a big orb, and it's
12 cut in half. You can walk through it and it has displays of
13 heroism and whatnot. But the kids come up and they go,
14 "Wow!" and they run up and there are statues and there are
15 all these things that people come around. Now this is right
16 in the arcade. There are restaurants and shops and all this
17 stuff, and so all along this promenade there are benches.
18 Now, when I was there, I was there for a few days, I went
19 over and I noticed that people congregated around this. It
20 was an attraction, it was a magnet, and that's what this is
21 going to be.

22
23 This is going to bring people up there. It's
24 going to bring people to Barney's museum and to the
25 library, and people will know where the police department

1 is. I mean this is going to be something that we're going
2 to be excited about, and I think you will be too. Thank
3 you.

4 Now I'd like to introduce Gil Decker.

5 GIL DECKER: I'm going to do a very quick
6 summary--some of this you've heard already--that ties our
7 design to the objectives. I've got to admit I'm biased. I
8 spent seven years as an Army helicopter pilot and 23 years
9 in the Army reserve. But Los Gatos is the best place I've
10 ever lived. You guys know my wife; she's very active in
11 civil affairs. One of the strengths of the Town is having
12 commissions like you to keep us straight, and I appreciate
13 your time.
14

15 One thing I'd like to point out that I believe he
16 commented on is if you look at the current fountain up
17 there, outside of the fountain are four concrete benches,
18 and if you measure the distance from the outer concrete
19 bench all the way across the fountain to the next one, it's
20 over 68'. Our lateral dimensions are closer to 54', so we
21 actually are freeing up some space and not gobbling space.
22

23 The eagle I think you would all agree is the
24 representative of this entire nation and the freedom we
25 enjoy, and we felt like when the artist came in and went

1 through the objectives we had and everything that the eagle
2 was very critical.

3 He's described the arbors; they fit within the
4 envelope of that reduced space, which actually would free
5 up space outside of the memorial on the plaza for other
6 things, such as I know the new museum is moving in and
7 they'll be wanting to stage things there and there will be
8 room to do that, and we've been very careful of making sure
9 we didn't gobble everything up in the space there.

10
11 There was a comment made about an optional water
12 feature. That will have to be looked at very carefully in
13 terms of maintenance. It may not even be necessary, but it
14 is one of the features now.

15 The statuary, in our opinion, generates an
16 emotion of gratitude and it recognizes as a tribute to
17 those who protect our freedoms that came from Los Gatos.

18 The materials were very critical. Our people
19 looked at that pretty hard and we're making sure that the
20 materials, they look like wood and everything, but they
21 will really be low maintenance and will not decay with
22 time.

23 An interesting thing to me, recently Christina
24 Gilmore sent us a document that goes back to the early 60s
25 when this center was built, and they had a set of

1 architectural judges to assess the design, and they
2 evaluated that very well, and it's actually a pretty neat
3 facility when you think about it. I believe that if those
4 judges were here today and looked at our design they would
5 say it fits, and it was very useful for me to see that and
6 it helped calm me down a little bit and say yeah, we
7 integrate so that what we will do is not just be a Veterans
8 Memorial, it is that, but it will be an attraction to the
9 Civic Center for people to see.

11 He mentioned the walkway. The walkway is not a
12 walkway to our memorial, it's a walkway to the Civic
13 Center, which will attract people and help identify this
14 area as a destination that people will want to see.

15 So I truly believe—as I say, I'm biased—that a
16 Veterans Memorial will be a true asset to the Town and it
17 will attract people to see the Civic Center. Thank you very
18 much.

19 DAVE KNAPP: Hi, I'm Dave Knapp of 68 Mariposa.
20 Good afternoon. I'd like to address the Commission's
21 criterion number 6-G, which is the impact on the community.

22 The primary function of government is to build
23 community. One of the remarkable effects of the Cupertino
24 Veterans Memorial is that it has engaged literally hundreds
25 of people who have not formally been actively involved in

1 the life of the community. Civic engagement typically
2 revolves around special interests, things like land use,
3 what's my neighbor planning to do with his property,
4 environmental issues, or business issues, is this the right
5 kind of business to have in our community? However, for
6 most people they're just busy making a living, maintaining
7 a household and raising their kids. They aren't overly
8 excited about plastic bags and gun stores. These are
9 important issues, but for most they take a backseat to how
10 the job is going and how the kids are doing in school.

11
12 The Veterans Memorial, however, struck a basic
13 chord with the majority of residents, both long-term
14 residents of the community and those who are newcomers. It
15 stirred deep feelings of pride, patriotism, and gratitude,
16 which have been somewhat obscured by multiculturalism and
17 political correctness. These latter two are important
18 values, but many felt the balance had been lost. A huge
19 number of people came forward expressing the notion that
20 finally the town is recognizing my values and my
21 priorities.

22
23 There was early concern by the Memorial
24 Foundation that it would not be able to raise enough money
25 to construct or maintain this wonderful facility. On
November 11th, attended by several hundred people, it was

LOS GATOS ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION 11/20/2014
Public Art Subcommittee – Veterans Memorial

1 announced that not only is there enough money for
2 construction and maintenance, but there's enough money to
3 support veterans who are attending De Anza College. As a
4 direct result of the memorial a large number and wide
5 variety of people have been brought into and engaged in the
6 community life.

7 Let me take just a minute to address the elephant
8 in the room. Won't the prominent placement or even the
9 existence of a Veterans Memorial glorify war and encourage
10 violence? As a veteran, let me tell you that those people
11 who put their lives on the line and their families are the
12 very people who most favor peace.

13 First and foremost, the memorial serves to honor
14 the families of those who gave their lives. For the dead,
15 their suffering is over, but for their families the pain
16 goes on and on. Living the loss of a husband or wife, son
17 or daughter, mother or father is a lifelong struggle.

18 Second, those currently serving and their
19 families deserve our appreciation and support. Their
20 sacrifices deserve recognition.

21 And finally, those who have served also deserve
22 recognition. Charles Provence wrote, "It is the soldier,
23 not the minister, who has given us freedom of religion. It
24 is the soldier, not the poet, who has given us freedom of
25

1 speech. It is the soldier, not the campus organizer, who
2 has given us the freedom to protest. It is the soldier, not
3 the lawyer, who has given us the right to a fair trial. And
4 it is the soldier, not the politician, that gives us the
5 right to vote. And it is the soldier who salutes the flag,
6 whose coffin is draped by the flag, who allows the
7 protester to burn the flag."

8 I'll turn it over now to General Hillhouse.
9 (Video presentation.)
10

11 MAJOR GENERAL HILLHOUSE: We haven't talked too
12 much about the artist that was just mentioned, and if
13 possible we'd like to have him come out here from his home
14 in Tennessee and address any concerns or questions that you
15 all may have, so that's in process. We're working on that
16 issue and we'll have to coordinate with you, Brian, and the
17 members of the Commission.

18 Secondly, David Knapp, the last presenter, who
19 talked about Cupertino, is a former city manager of
20 Cupertino and also city manager of Los Gatos, and he was in
21 Cupertino when they were building their memorial, so he has
22 firsthand experience on that.

23 A lot of information on the artist in the packet
24 you have, and at this point we're going to turn the
25

1 microphone back over to Commissioner Bernasconi. Thank you
2 very much for listening to us today.

3 CHAIR BERNASCONI: Thank you very much. Thanks,
4 everybody, for putting that together and I'm really very
5 pleased that we were able to see that and hear everybody
6 speak, so thank you very much.

7 I think we're going to move on. As promised,
8 there are two people who have filled out comment cards. I
9 think this would be the time to move on to them. If we may
10 hear from Leonard Pacheco.

11 LEONARD PACHECO: Good afternoon or good evening,
12 whatever you'd like it to be. Leonard Pacheco, Los Gatos
13 resident. I am a veteran with over 30 years of service,
14 both active and reserve duty, so I know where we're coming
15 from.

16 When I first saw the proposal I was astounded.
17 This doesn't represent me or my branch of service, the
18 Navy. It's more or less a civil war style statue that's a
19 man with an eagle. It's very masculine. Where are the women
20 that we served with? They're not even represented. It's a
21 collection of a little bit of contemporary twisted
22 stainless steel with a light on the top. It's bizarre, in
23 my opinion.
24
25

1 It's actually two projects. It's the statue,
2 World War One more appropriate, and the landscape, the
3 arbor. I don't know if you all realize that this building,
4 this complex, won a design award when it was built. To me
5 this is at odds with that design of the 60s or 70s when it
6 was built.

7 I would hope that you would look at this as what
8 it is, a proposal, and not the final thing, something that
9 is a little more contemporary in feeling, something that
10 represents those of us who are veterans who aren't
11 interested in a bald eagle flying over the sky. We have
12 ducks in Vasona, not bald eagles. And we are a local town,
13 we're not a national town, so we're here to pay respect to
14 those of us who served, because we are local residents.
15 Thank you.

16 CHAIR BERNASCONI: Thank you, Mr. Pacheco. I
17 think it's Barney Davidge.

18 BARNEY DAVIDGE: Hi, I'm Barney Davidge and I'm
19 on the board at the museum, but also I've done
20 architectural illustrations as a profession for 36 years.

21 I believe in transparency and that everybody
22 should see what is being built. I was gone when I heard
23 that they said the thing wasn't accurate. We just took the
24 information that was on the website and constructed that in
25

1 SketchUp, and Ellen emailed me and wanted to know if I
2 would send it to the sculptor. It's not the sculptor
3 though; he's just designed it. The sculptor is a separate
4 person, right? At his direction, right? And in my image
5 that you have, I didn't do the sculpture. I just took the
6 image they had and massed it out a little bit. But
7 everything else was what we got off the website. And so I
8 sent it to them and hopefully they'll correct it if I made
9 any mistakes.

10
11 From the SketchUp you can walk around this image
12 anywhere you want and stand anywhere you want and see what
13 it looks like, number one.

14 Number two, as Leonard Pacheco had mentioned and
15 a few other people, in 1967 they AIA gave an honor award
16 for this building, and when the new library was built they
17 reflected on this structure for mid-century architecture,
18 and the same with the neighborhood; mid-century
19 architecture influenced it. I just want you to take that
20 into consideration when you consider the design of the
21 Veterans Memorial, that this is a mid-century architecture
22 gem considered by the AIA. Other people in the community
23 call it different things, but to the architectural
24 community, it's a gem, and I just wanted you to take that
25 into consideration when you're thinking about having a

1 memorial in Los Gatos. And that's just from a personal
2 standpoint.

3 From the museum's standpoint, I think we just
4 want to make sure that all this is taken into consideration
5 before we move forward to committee on this memorial in the
6 Civic Center in the fountain area. As a museum we really
7 think it would be great to have a Veterans Memorial. We
8 just might differ on design and place. Thank you.

9 CHAIR BERNASCONI: Great. Thank you very much.
10 I'm going to go back then and see if anybody here on the
11 Commission has anything to say or questions to ask. It's
12 5:25, so we're here for another 35 minutes, as far as I
13 know, and I think this is now where we get into the sort of
14 nuts and bolts about what everybody's thinking and feeling.

15 GREG LARSON: Mr. Chair?

16 CHAIR BERNASCONI: Yes, sir?

17 GREG LARSON: I think in particular while the
18 Foundation is here it's a good time to ask any questions
19 Commissioners may have of the proposal rather than jumping
20 right into the discussion of evaluation and (inaudible).
21

22 CHAIR BERNASCONI: Okay. Those two seem the same
23 to me, but that's fine; I can understand the difference.
24 George.
25

1 COMMISSIONER HAVELKA: I don't know who from the
2 Foundation wants to speak to this, but several times and
3 from several different speakers the comment was made about
4 the importance of fundraising, and it's as if the
5 fundraising was almost primary in your process. Obviously
6 this is a costly venture and you do have to raise some
7 money, but the museum has to raise some money too, the
8 library has to raise some money too, and schools have to
9 raise money. I mean there are lots of entities here in Town
10 that has to raise money, and how do you feel we're to
11 negotiate through these various interests and allow
12 veterans some way to raise money as opposed to maybe
13 somebody else? Or is there a thought on that?

15 ELLEN MANZO: I guess one of the comments I would
16 offer is that from a fundraising standpoint we anticipate
17 that there are a lot of interests, and to some degree some
18 of the community will overlap, no question, and that's not
19 unusual in most communities where there are multiple
20 interests fundraising at the same time.

21 We also still do think however that there is a
22 large separate community that would have an interest in a
23 Veterans Memorial. Frankly, from my vantage point, I know
24 this concept has to go through a public process, but for me
25 it's real simple. The public process is the fundraising. If

1 the money doesn't get raised, guess what? It's very
2 difficult to install a memorial. This is an improvement in
3 the infrastructure for the Town. This is also delivering a
4 Veterans Memorial, but it's at the cost of not the Town but
5 of private funders, and so that's a pretty good public test
6 in my view. I hope that answers the question.

7
8 CHRISTINA GILMORE: Mr. Chair, Christina Gilmore,
9 if I may. Just I think some more points of clarification
10 and I'll ask the Foundation to step in to make sure that I
11 have the facts right.

12 My understanding in talking to other Staff and
13 members of the Foundation is that the fundraising portion
14 for this project is currently on hold because the
15 Foundation feels it would be important to have a finalized
16 project by the Council to present to members of the public
17 or donors so that they understand the components of the
18 project that they would be donating to.

19 COMMISSIONER HAVELKA: No, that's understood. I
20 think that's understood. What my question was about was a
21 large part or some part of the Civic Center space was to be
22 used to place bricks or some memorial items used for
23 fundraising, and like why should you guys have the right to
24 do that and maybe not the museum have the right, or the
25 library or any other entity in Town?

1 ELLEN MANZO: I think part of the reason we're
2 here is for the simplistic reason that two years ago the
3 Town Council authorized us to go accept renderings from
4 artists in consideration of three spaces: the lawn and/or
5 the plaza and/or Pageant Grounds, and in doing so they
6 reserved the right of the Foundation to accept renderings
7 before they would consider doing anything else. So
8 therefore, that's a decision of the Town Council in terms
9 of the location and space, just as it's a decision of the
10 Town on where the museums would be located, where the
11 library would be located, and any other infrastructure
12 decision for the Town.
13

14 I do want to address something though that
15 Christina mentioned. With the approval for the Town to go
16 forward with a Veterans Memorial, which came forth as a
17 result of the Town Council meeting on November 4th, in
18 essence, our game plan, as was expressed by Secretary
19 Francis Harvey at that time, is that gives us the ability
20 to at least go forward and look for pledges. With the
21 actual design of the memorial subject to final Town Council
22 approval or consideration of the Arts Commission with all
23 the different caveats in mind, that opens the door for us
24 to go solicit for pledges. We do feel unequivocally about
25 having a better opportunity to secure donations with being

1 able to show somebody what the ultimate product is. I'm
2 sure you know that from art, or the Commission and the work
3 you do professionally. So to the end that we have the
4 ability to display a design, we're all advantaged. We're
5 advantaged, the Town is advantaged, everyone is advantaged,
6 and that in part is why we're anxious to get moving forward
7 and conclude the process as quickly as possible.

8 MALE: (Inaudible.)

9
10 MAJOR GENERAL HILLHOUSE: That's fine; we're all
11 buddies here. To your point on the library and the museum,
12 for example, my wife and I have a leaf on the wall at the
13 library, because we used the library a lot and it's
14 something that's important, so we donated money to the
15 library. We have no problem with the museum putting bricks
16 out, or anybody else; that's not the intent. But it does
17 create an opportunity for people.

18 For example, we found out that Los Gatos had a
19 battalion of soldiers committed to the north in the Civil
20 War. A lot of people don't realize that. So our community
21 goes way back in terms of military, so again, we want to be
22 able to, through donations, through maybe it could be a
23 bench or it could be a brick, these are minor in terms of
24 making money, but it's something the people feel is
25 important to have a grandfather's name or a mother's name

LOS GATOS ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION 11/20/2014
Public Art Subcommittee – Veterans Memorial

1 or somebody's name on a brick. I'm not sure I'm truly down
2 on your question, but that's... Okay. Thank you.

3 COMMISSIONER ROSE: I'm not sure, tell me if I'm
4 off on where I'm going right now, but I wanted to speak a
5 little bit on addressing our Los Gatos resident who spoke
6 regarding...

7 First of all, I want to say I think everybody's
8 in agreement that we should have a memorial. I think we're
9 past that.

10 But I did want to hear a little bit about being
11 contemporary with Los Gatos, and I believe our Los Gatos
12 resident... I'm sorry, I forgot your name. You may want to
13 say it again.

14 LEONARD PACHECO: Leonard Pacheco.

15 COMMISSIONER ROSE: Okay, thank you. Women in
16 war. We're southern Silicon Valley. We have companies like
17 Sysco that I believe had technology that navigated
18 missiles. There are all kinds of things that encompass our
19 area and would be directly related, and I'm wondering if
20 any thought went into that in the memorial? So if somebody
21 would address that, the woman issue, the architectural
22 issue. I don't know that you have addressed that, and if
23 this memorial is fighting the architectural design of our
24 Civic Center, and might tie us... I believe you did say it

25 LOS GATOS ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION 11/20/2014
Public Art Subcommittee - Veterans Memorial

1 was designed specifically for Los Gatos, so if somebody
2 could address that it would be interesting, informative.

3 MAJOR GENERAL HILLHOUSE: It was designed
4 specifically for the plaza of Los Gatos. Yes, we did talk
5 about females, and women in the service right now represent
6 it's about a 20% number, and I believe it's probably going
7 to grow to as high as 40%, so they play an important role
8 and they have been since the late 1970s, being a part of
9 the actual service. They were in other capacities even in
10 World War Two where they were nurses, pilots and so forth,
11 but now they actually are part of the military.

13 One approach we had was in fact our second. This
14 was not submitted, but our second choice. No changes to
15 anything you see, except for the fact that instead of one
16 individual there would be five individuals, of which two
17 would be female, two would be women in the service. Right
18 now the Air Force and the Navy have more women than any of
19 the other services, for obvious reasons, and a lot of those
20 are technical jobs. The Army, in terms of combat, there are
21 a lot of female helicopter pilots. I tried to talk my
22 daughters into looking into the helicopter program and had
23 one of our female pilots, a West Point graduate, take them...
24 But it didn't work; they wound up being schoolteachers
25 instead.

1 But at any rate, we do have a way to go about it.
2 We can even do the one soldier with an eagle and have a
3 female soldier or sailor next to him, so there are options
4 in that regard, and that's a good point and we don't have a
5 problem with that. Does that answer the question?

6 COMMISSIONER ROSE: It's information for us to
7 consider. Thank you.

8 MAJOR GENERAL HILLHOUSE: Okay. Good question.
9 One clarification, if I didn't make this, all the other
10 elements would be the same as the proposal we put forward.

11 COMMISSIONER ROSE: You know, we're really big on
12 dogs here too and I believe there are dogs in the..
13

14 MAJOR GENERAL HILLHOUSE: Good point.

15 COMMISSIONER ROSE: War horses, yeah.

16 MAJOR GENERAL HILLHOUSE: War cats. You know, we
17 can get some war cats in there too, maybe. Elephant in the
18 room.

19 COMMISSIONER SPILSBURY: I have a question of
20 clarification. It seems in watching your presentation and
21 listening to everything that I've seen, you were directed
22 in 2012 by the Town Council, Mayor Rice and the Council
23 members at that point, to design something either on the
24 roof of this structure here or on the lawn at the
25 flagpoles; that's what it sounds like to me. I'm not sure,

1 so I want clarification. How did you drill down to up here
2 instead of at the flagpoles, and why didn't they look at
3 other places then?

4 It seems like our direction from the Council this
5 time is like taking whatever the Council said two years ago
6 and throwing it out the window and starting all over again,
7 and I'm a little confused, because it was fairly clear to
8 me that the Council gave them direct instructions on what
9 to do and as soldiers they followed that, but I don't know.

10 GREG LARSON: If I may answer, Mr. Chair. As
11 Christina reflected, and it's in the report to Council, the
12 Council motion was authorization for the Veterans
13 Foundation to return to Council with two to four options of
14 location and design, and at that point in time you may
15 recall the Mayor's motion said to return quickly and I
16 think (inaudible) thought it would be by Memorial Day or
17 the following Veterans Day, there would be a quick return
18 with options presented to the Council. Staff certainly, and
19 I believe the Council, thought those would be location
20 options as well as design options. The Veterans Foundation,
21 as is their right, chose to focus on one location and to
22 pursue different design options, but I believe the Council
23 and Staff's expectations were that there would be location
24 and design options brought back, which I think was

1 reflected by the Council's action two weeks ago giving the
2 Commission authority to look at location options.

3 MAJOR GENERAL HILLHOUSE: When was the Brown Act
4 put into affect?

5 GREG LARSON: Oh, boy. The attorney had to leave.
6 I would guess it was 19...

7 MAJOR GENERAL HILLHOUSE: I don't want to get
8 anyone in trouble, but we had individual discussions with
9 different Council people, so we walked away from the
10 meeting with the flagpoles, Pageant Park and the plaza, but
11 in discussion individually with different people in the
12 Council, they didn't want people on the grass, which
13 eliminates the flagpole, because there are things that go
14 on, Music in the Park, different things which are important
15 to Los Gatos, and we agree with that.

17 And then Pageant Grounds or Pageant Park is a
18 sacred area to a lot of people, one Councilperson in
19 particular, and we got the distinct impression that the
20 plaza was the place to be for that reason, to answer your
21 question. So true, we were supposed to come back with two
22 or three locations, and they gave us three locations to
23 look at, but it became very clear that there was really
24 only one location. So when we did the call to artists we
25 had over 20 local submittals, we had people showing up,

LOS GATOS ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION 11/20/2014
Public Art Subcommittee - Veterans Memorial

1 that we drilled it down to four and then ultimately down to
2 what you're seeing today.

3 COMMISSIONER SPILSBURY: One quick, just to
4 finish my question. What was the cost of design?

5 MAJOR GENERAL HILLHOUSE: Somewhere between
6 \$750,000 and \$1 million for the total project.

7 COMMISSIONER SPILSBURY: No, what have you spent
8 so far for design?

9 MAJOR GENERAL HILLHOUSE: I want to say \$2,000.
10 Four thousand? Four thousand dollars.

11 COMMISSIONER SPILSBURY: And what would the cost
12 to redesign be?

13 MAJOR GENERAL HILLHOUSE: Well, the artists do
14 this basically on a pro bono basis so they can get the
15 business, it's like any business, so again, we have to go
16 out and see if we can restart the machinery and see if we
17 can get people interested.

18 CHAIR BERNASCONI: Just to get some clarification
19 here. Was there more than one proposal at one time? Were
20 there other proposals submitted?

21 COMMISSIONER SPILSBURY: They brought back four
22 and they took two to the Council.

23 CHAIR BERNASCONI: Right. Was that one of the
24 four?

1 COMMISSIONER SPILSBURY: That's one of the four.

2 COMMISSIONER ROSE: Is this one of the designs
3 that was submitted?

4 MAJOR GENERAL HILLHOUSE: Correct.

5 COMMISSIONER HARE: I'm a little confused in the
6 point that if we're supposed to try to make a well rounded
7 decision that we're not given all of the materials to look
8 at. In other words, it showed to me when you were having
9 the slide presentation that Council kind of pushed or was
10 glorifying the middle area, saying we'd like to see
11 something done with that, as opposed to I'd like to see
12 different designs for different spots, because it showed
13 that there was only one proposal for one thing.

15 CHAIR BERNASCONI: I think what happened is we
16 wound up having to back the whole process up.

17 COMMISSIONER HARE: Right.

18 CHAIR BERNASCONI: Right? And that's why we're
19 all here now.

20 COMMISSIONER HARE: I wouldn't be able to make a
21 decision based on just one thing, nor would I think that
22 your fundraisers would be able to do that, because you're
23 going out and giving them one idea for fundraising and then
24 if this isn't what comes to fruition, then you're... I guess
25

1 that's not our problem, but I'd like to see more of what
2 you had before.

3 MAJOR GENERAL HILLHOUSE: We haven't gone out to
4 fundraise or actually to show people what the final program
5 is going to look like, so when we do we want to go out with
6 just one. We're not going to be giving choices to people.

7 COMMISSIONER HARE: Okay.

8 COMMISSIONER STONESIFER: This sketch, this
9 concept that we're looking at right here, this is proposed
10 I'm assuming in the same location. This isn't an either/or
11 thing, right? But this is one of the ones that you've
12 refused in favor of Frank Morris'.

13 MAJOR GENERAL HILLHOUSE: This is part of Frank
14 Morris'.

15 COMMISSIONER STONESIFER: This is one of his
16 proposals?

17 MAJOR GENERAL HILLHOUSE: Nothing would be
18 different, except instead of having the one eagle, we're
19 aiming at five.

20 COMMISSIONER STONESIFER: But there's no flame in
21 this one either.

22 MAJOR GENERAL HILLHOUSE: It would be a spire and
23 a flame.

1 COMMISSIONER STONESIFER: So what we're seeing is
2 not...

3 MAJOR GENERAL HILLHOUSE: Nothing changes.
4 Nothing else changes.

5 COMMISSIONER STONESIFER: Okay. Personally, I
6 prefer this without the spire. To me, this follows the
7 five-sided diagram that we saw in one of the sketches, but
8 never these figures, and I assume it also represents,
9 besides one female, the five branches of the military
10 service, so it's a pretty democratic sculpture for a
11 memorial. I personally think this is quite attractive. This
12 would be done in bronze?
13

14 MAJOR GENERAL HILLHOUSE: Correct.

15 MALE: It's two women, correct? This is two
16 women?

17 COMMISSIONER STONESIFER: Plus the five branches.

18 MAJOR GENERAL HILLHOUSE: Probably. That's what
19 would be our thought.

20 CHAIR BERNASCONI: Colleen.

21 COMMISSIONER WILCOX: A couple of questions of
22 Staff actually. I thought someone said that there were some
23 funds allocated to the Foundation to move forward with this
24 and I was just curious, did I misunderstand, and if so,
25 why?

1 Then my second question has to do with the
2 Foundation mentioned that this would be the property of the
3 Foundation and maintained by the Foundation, and just from
4 our previous discussions on art, it would all belong to the
5 City and maintained by the City. Am I correct with those
6 two assumptions?

7 CHRISTINA GILMORE: I'll let Greg Larson speak to
8 the money that was committed by the Town first. We'll
9 address that topic first.

10 COMMISSIONER WILCOX: Okay, thank you.

11 GREG LARSON: The Foundation, both in November
12 2012 and again just a month ago, asked for I think \$20,000
13 each time in support, and Council has not approved that
14 funding either time. There was a question at the last
15 Council meeting that we could bring back action on January
16 20th. It's not the purview of the Commission; it would be a
17 separate Staff Report if the Council wanted to make a grant
18 to the Foundation to refer that action to the mid-year
19 budget review.
20

21 The one issue that Staff did say the Foundation
22 also included a request for a waiver of all building fees.
23 We've never done that in modern times. Even the library
24 paid building fees, so we recommended against that. But the
25

1 Council can always make a grant if they chose to. They
2 would have to just choose to not fund something else.

3 COMMISSIONER SAYOC: And the question on
4 ownership and responsibility for maintenance.

5 GREG LARSON: I believe that's actually covered
6 in the policy and the way the Foundation is structured.
7 What's reflected in the policy in that the art is to be
8 perpetually owned by someone else, but it's under a grant
9 with the Town. Three other art sculptures that exist on the
10 campus are in that same arrangement.

11 ELLEN MANZO: If I may, I would like to address
12 that. Is that possible?

13 CHAIR BERNASCONI: Yes, please. Go ahead.

14 ELLEN MANZO: In 2012, and again currently today,
15 we mentioned that it would be the intention of the
16 Foundation to maintain governance and authority for the
17 memorial in perpetuity, and there's a strong reason for
18 that.

19 When we started this endeavor we spent some time with
20 Sandra James, who is the former mayor of Cupertino, as well
21 as we met with the chair for the memorial in Campbell. By
22 the way, there is also a memorial in Saratoga and there's a
23 memorial in Santa Clara. And we picked their brains to find
24 out what they found over the course of time, and one of the
25

1 learnings of Sandra James was that she had intended to gift
2 the memorial to the Town of Cupertino. They discovered,
3 however, or at least it was my understanding but we have to
4 go clarify this, that they discovered that it would be
5 better for Cupertino and better for the Cupertino Veterans
6 Memorial Association if the ownership, or the authority I
7 should say, retains with a private entity.

8 The reason for that is by doing so they would not
9 back Cupertino into a wall of having to accept every
10 message that every donor might want to put on that
11 memorial, versus it being managed and owned by a private
12 entity the Cupertino Veterans Foundation has the ability to
13 take a look at a message that a donor might want to pursue
14 having either it engraved on a brick or on a slab or
15 granite, and they have the right of refusal or the right of
16 negotiating with that party about putting something that
17 might be more honorable and respectful and expressing
18 gratitude on that brick or granite, or then ultimately
19 refusing.
20

21 And that test actually presented itself in
22 Cupertino once. Sandra received a certified envelope one
23 day, thought that was interesting, and there was an
24 organization that wanted to have something that was not
25 respectful implemented at her memorial. So she invited the

1 individual donor in, and six individuals showed up, and
2 they had a good conversation. Turns out that that
3 particular association had a very respectful logo that was
4 an emblem of peace and they were able to agree that that's
5 what would be appearing on their memorial.

6 So this area I think has to be raised. I know
7 that the current policy, the Arts Commission policy, refers
8 to pieces that have the scope and refers to three areas:
9 One is art that is under \$5,000 that is gifted or loaned.
10 Well, this isn't under \$5,000. Two is art that is
11 commissioned by the Town of Los Gatos, and this is
12 something that would be commissioned by the Foundation. And
13 three is art that is to be loaned for gifted over \$5,000,
14 and once again, by virtue of the intention of the
15 Foundation to hold the memorial in the authority for
16 governance in perpetuity, we're questioning whether that
17 applies.
18

19 But that said, we recognize that there is
20 importance in going forward with the public process, and
21 that's why we're pursuing this. Thank you.

22 GREG LARSON: If I can clarify, I actually
23 thought there was alignment between the policy and what the
24 Foundation has proposed, and if the Foundation would own
25 the art in perpetuity and would be loaning it to the Town

1 in perpetuity. But it would be following the Cupertino
2 model is what I think our policy calls for, which is what
3 the Foundation has proposed. I don't think there's a
4 disconnect there; I think they're in alignment.

5 COMMISSIONER ROSE: I'm wondering if you could
6 give us a brief description of the memorial that you have
7 in Saratoga, in Cupertino, and in Campbell? Are they all
8 figures? I'm not familiar with them.

9
10 GREG LARSON: We can provide pictures to the
11 Commission at a future meeting if that would be helpful.

12 MAJOR GENERAL HILLHOUSE: We can show pictures
13 too, if you want to see them right now. There's a three-
14 minute video that we can kick up there.

15 COMMISSIONER ROSE: That would be fantastic.

16 COMMISSIONER SPILSBURY: Does that include San
17 Jose too?

18 MAJOR GENERAL HILLHOUSE: No.

19 COMMISSIONER ROSE: We'd like to see them. If you
20 have them, that would be great.

21 COMMISSIONER STONESIFER: We want to be sure to
22 be aware of what's going on in Campbell.

23 MAJOR GENERAL HILLHOUSE: They're going to flash
24 by quickly, so just don't take your eyes off the screen.
25

1 GREG LARSON: We can also provide them separately
2 for your next meeting, if you wish. I have to remind
3 Commissioners, any information to be considered in your
4 decision making has to be part of the public record.

5 CHAIR BERNASCONI: I have Googled the Cupertino
6 memorial and I was passing around a photograph of the
7 Cupertino memorial.

8 GREG LARSON: Thank you.

9 CHAIR BERNASCONI: Sure enough.

10 MAJOR GENERAL HILLHOUSE: What's interesting, and
11 the reason we had the picture in our packet, they have a
12 slanted wall on that picture of the young Seals that were
13 depicted on the wall, and they did that to keep the
14 skateboarders from getting on there. So in other words, if
15 they're flat the skateboarders are going to be in and you
16 have a safety issue. That picture was to demonstrate the
17 fact that we're going to do a similar type of deal from a
18 safety standpoint on this memorial.

19 COMMISSIONER WILCOX: I don't think we need to
20 see it (inaudible).

21 COMMISSIONER ROSE: I don't think we need to see
22 it now.

23 COMMISSIONER WILCOX: Yeah.

1 COMMISSIONER ROSE: If you want to send it, email
2 it to us.

3 CHRISTINA GILMORE: Staff will coordinate the
4 pictures and the location that was requested and we'll
5 provide that for the next meeting.

6 COMMISSIONER STONESIFER: May I speak, Brian?

7 CHAIR BERNASCONI: Yes, please.

8 COMMISSIONER STONESIFER: I'm going to go ahead
9 and jump right in, and maybe some of my fellow
10 commissioners will follow suit so that you can get an idea
11 of where at least one Commissioner is coming from.

12 I like the idea of using the fountain for your
13 sculpture. To me that's a done deal.

14 I strongly question the arbors and I strongly
15 question the plaques and the bricks being in that location.
16 I think they could go into a more secondary and quieter
17 location.

18 Does anybody want to follow suit and add what
19 their initial thoughts are? That's my initial thoughts for
20 now temporary.

21 COMMISSIONER SPILSBURY: I'd be happy to. I agree
22 with David in the fact of the location for the sculpture.

23 I do like the arbor. I think the materials
24 should, instead of wood, reflect the highlights of the

1 other buildings, and especially the library. I like the
2 arbor and the fact that I think it soothes the coldness of
3 the plaza.

4 The plaques, I'm in agreement with you. I think
5 the four plaques are a lot. I think having them on all the
6 buildings is a lot. I think having them on the museum is
7 not acceptable to me. Having them on the police building I
8 think is acceptable. First responders; police are first
9 responders. I think that makes more sense. Having it on the
10 administrative building, it gets all over and I think it
11 needs to be brought down into more of a concentrated area.

13 I kind of like the eternal flame. I think it's
14 too tall, for me, but you know, adjust it down a little
15 bit.

16 Whether it's the five person sculpture or the one
17 person and the eagle sculpture, I think I would be
18 interested in the sizes of that a little bit. Nine feet
19 seems big to me. It seems gargantuan to me. It seems more
20 personal to me if it's more like the real size life of a
21 person to me; that's my view.

22 But the walkway going in, I think the walkway is
23 a nice idea. I think if that can be accomplished, maybe a
24 little less of a grand scale, but the walkway coming into
25 the Civic Center I think is kind of important, because

1 people just walk across the lawn anyway, so the circular
2 design is nice, but it's not practical in getting people
3 into that space. So those are my feelings.

4 COMMISSIONER HARE: May I add to that? I'm in a
5 little disagreement with the walkway. I think that that
6 whole area during the summer is used by families and
7 picnicking and also Music in the Park, and it gets very
8 warm out there and I just see that it could cause some
9 problems as far as heat. A lot of people comment on how
10 beautiful the greenery is, and it is a park, so that I have
11 a little different opinion on.
12

13 Also, my own opinion as far as the sculpture, I
14 don't like mixing different materials like the aluminum and
15 the modern versus the nostalgia.

16 And also bring it down in a smaller, more
17 intimate reflective type of area as opposed to, and I took
18 note of it, four times the word "attraction" was mentioned.
19 I don't know about you, but I think this should be a place
20 of reflection and somewhat quiet time, not an attraction,
21 so to speak.
22

23 COMMISSIONER HAVELKA: Yeah, I noted the
24 attraction word myself; I was kind of annoyed with it. In
25 any case, I did write down some notes here.

1 I'll take the middle ground on the walkway. I
2 kind of like the idea of a walkway, but I think it's too
3 big.

4 I like the trellises, but I think they need to be
5 in steel or aluminum. It needs to reflect the mid-century
6 modern-ness of not only the structure, but also the library
7 that was reflected because of the structure and the
8 neighborhood center adjacent.

9 The stone that's on those planters, the stone is
10 not... I'd just rather see cast concrete or cast concrete
11 with some detail of bricks, because just about the whole
12 place is brick and cast steel and cast concrete.

13 Wall panels, that's way too much. I think just
14 having the sculpture up there would be plenty. And the
15 sculpture, in my mind, is way too heroic. War is heroic,
16 it's tragic, it's awful, it's a bunch of different things.
17 It is not just heroism, or serving is not just heroism.
18 I'll agree with some of the others that talked about
19 something a little more contemplative. In fact, you guys
20 mentioned that several different times, yet the statue I
21 don't think speaks to that. It was also mentioned
22 educational and meditative, but I don't see anything
23 educational or meditative in the sculpture itself. I have a
24
25

1 problem with the sculpture, so maybe you can work on me a
2 little bit here. We'll see how it goes.

3 COMMISSIONER STONESIFER: It sounds like, at
4 least everybody who spoke, agrees that the sculpture is the
5 centerpiece. The sculpture is the point. That's the art,
6 and the rest of it seems to be centering around
7 architecture, which is intimidating to this, what has been
8 brought up as being wonderful architecture as it is. I
9 think your point, George, of simplifying it and maybe
10 matching some of the materials that are here, like this
11 cast concrete makes a bit more sense. It really does, I
12 agree with you on that.

14 You in the audience are aware that the only time
15 we get a chance to discuss this, to kind of hash it out and
16 argue it, is in front of the public, so that's why this
17 maybe seems a bit disjointed or whatever.

18 COMMISSIONER WILCOX: Actually, I think the
19 notion of an arbor around that area warms it, creates a
20 center, is lovely, enhances the area, but again, I think
21 the style of this tends to be more Mission-esq than fitting
22 in with the architecture that we have.

23 What I like most about this is the arbor. The
24 sculpture itself, I have to say artistically I don't find
25 it appealing at all. I would prefer, I believe, something

1 more symbolic, something that would emit emotions. I think
2 of whether it's the Vietnam wall in Washington or other
3 places, I find them not only stunning artistically, but
4 incredibly moving, and I think that sculpting life-size
5 individuals is particularly difficult and I worry about the
6 quality, not seeing a mockette of what that would look
7 like.

8
9 I am somewhat concerned about the location, but I
10 am moved toward that location because of the arbor, because
11 it so enhances the City, but I also think because it
12 reflects the library and the police department and all
13 things civic that it should reflect the community and
14 perhaps the memorial elsewhere. But regardless, I find this
15 particular piece unattractive artistically.

16 COMMISSIONER STONESIFER: Colleen, could you
17 readdress the arbor? I don't think I understand you. You
18 say at first that it's too Mission-esq or you don't like
19 it, but then you say you like the arbor best of all.

20 COMMISSIONER WILCOX: The notion of the arbor.

21 COMMISSIONER STONESIFER: Okay, but not as shown?

22 COMMISSIONER WILCOX: No, not at all.

23 COMMISSIONER STONESIFER: Okay.
24
25

1 CHAIR BERNASCONI: I think part of what we're
2 talking about is the notion of having something that's been
3 virtually a wasteland for decades...

4 COMMISSIONER SAYOC: Absolutely.

5 CHAIR BERNASCONI: ...turned into something that
6 people want to go and be a part of and enjoy. That's what
7 I'm hearing, that there's some way of making it more
8 appealing. Nobody wants to go up there now. It's kind of
9 like a stopover if you're waiting for somebody on either
10 side of the platform. Is that sort of what you're saying,
11 Colleen?
12

13 COMMISSIONER WILCOX: It's exactly what I'm
14 saying, but I still have reservations about the location of
15 the statue. The statue is what would bring the arbor to our
16 community, but I think there are other ways to get a more
17 fitting, suitable aesthetic arbor perhaps outside of the
18 memorial.

19 COMMISSIONER STONESIFER: Colleen, you mean
20 outside of the memorial as the memorial would be placed in
21 the fountain area?

22 COMMISSIONER SAYOC: Correct.

23 COMMISSIONER STONESIFER: Say, for example, if a
24 statue that is agreed upon were moved from the round
25

1 fountain to the upper platform, and then an arbor put
2 around that, you're talking about that as an idea?

3 COMMISSIONER SAYOC: Exactly.

4 COMMISSIONER STONESIFER: Okay, very good. Very
5 good point.

6 CHAIR BERNASCONI: I am going to recommend that
7 in the interest of not going all night to get everything
8 done today, since we have other sessions scheduled, that
9 maybe we're at a reasonable stopping point to adjourn.
10

11 GREG LARSON: You're actually ahead of schedule.
12 You got to the evaluation and discussion and you started
13 that in a constructive, productive way.

14 CHAIR BERNASCONI: Yeah, and the ideas are going
15 to start percolating and maybe we can just start fresh with
16 that at 4:00 o'clock next week.

17 COMMISSIONER WILCOX: If I could just mention one
18 thing before, and that is I noted some flexibility and get...

19 (END)
20
21
22
23
24
25